

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (withdrawn): A screening method of a substance that inhibits interaction between anti-troponin I antibody and cardiac troponin I, which comprises measuring and evaluating the inhibitory activity of a test substance on interaction between anti-cardiac troponin I antibody and cardiac troponin I after contacting the anti-cardiac troponin I antibody, the cardiac troponin I and the test substance.

2. (withdrawn): A screening method of a substance that inhibits the effect of anti-troponin I to a target tissue, which comprises measuring and evaluating the inhibitory activity of a test substance on the effect of anti-cardiac troponin I antibody on a target tissue after contacting the anti-cardiac troponin I, the target tissue and the test substance.

3. (withdrawn): The screening method according to claim 2, wherein the target tissue is a myocardial cell.

4. (withdrawn): A pharmaceutical composition of therapy for cardiac disease which is made by steps comprising a step of selecting a substance with activity by the screening method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, a step of manufacturing the above selected substance, and

a step of mixing the substance manufactured by the above described step with a pharmaceutically acceptable solvent for formulation.

5. (withdrawn): A method for treating cardiac disease, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of at least one selected from cardiac troponin I protein, a partial protein thereof, and a modified protein thereof.

6. (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition of therapy for cardiac disease according to claim 4, wherein the cardiac disease is dilated cardiomyopathy.

7. (withdrawn): A therapeutic base material for cardiac disease coupled with a substance selected by the method according to any one of claims 1 to 3 or at least one selected from cardiac troponin I, its partial protein, and a modified protein thereof.

Claim 8. (Canceled).

9. (withdrawn): The therapeutic base material for cardiac disease according to claim 7, wherein the cardiac disease is dilated cardiomyopathy.

10. (withdrawn): An apparatus for therapy of cardiac disease, which comprises a plasma separating apparatus; an extracorporeal immunity absorbing apparatus that contacts between separated plasma and the therapeutic base material for cardiac disease according to claim 7; and a reflux apparatus which mixes plasma treated with the above described

extracorporeal immunity absorbing apparatus into separated hemocytes, and send it back into body again.

11. (withdrawn): The apparatus for therapy of cardiac disease according to claim 10, wherein the cardiac disease is a dilated cardiomyopathy.

12. (withdrawn): A method for making an animal model for evaluating cardiac disease, which comprises administering the anti-cardiac troponin I antibody.

13. (withdrawn): The method for making an animal model for evaluation of cardiac disease according to claim 12, wherein the cardiac disease is dilated cardiomyopathy.

14. (withdrawn): A method of screening a substance for therapy of cardiac disease, which comprises determining the effect of a test substance to cardiac disease after administration of the substance to an animal made by the method according to claim 12.

15. (withdrawn): A method of screening a substance for therapy of dilated cardiomyopathy, which comprises determining the effect of a test substance to cardiac disease after administration of the substance to an animal made by the method according to claim 13.

16. (withdrawn): A method for treating dilated cardiomyopathy, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a substance that inhibits the production of anti-cardiac troponin I autoantibody.

17. (currently amended): A diagnosis method of dilated cardiomyopathy, which comprises measuring an amount of anti-cardiac troponin I autoantibody and determining the existence of said antibody.

18. (withdrawn): A method for treating for cardiac disease, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 4.

19. (withdrawn): The method according to claim 5 or 18, wherein the cardiac disease is dilated cardiomyopathy.

20. (previously presented): A method for treating dilated cardiomyopathy, which comprises removing anti-cardiac troponin I autoantibody from a patient's blood.